CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1. (currently amended) A burner assembly comprising:

a ring generally centered on an axis and defining an array of outwardly open holes and a central compartment on the axis within the array;

means for supplying a gas/air mixture to the ring to project jets of the mixture from the holes, whereby, when ignited, the jets form a main annular flame centered on the axis;

a ~~relatively~~ small burner in the compartment generally centered on the axis;

a generally circular horizontal plate [[on]] supported above the ring and generally centered on the axis, the plate overlying and covering the compartment and the small burner and having an outer diameter substantially greater than an outer diameter of the small burner; and

means for supplying a gas/air mixture to the small burner to form in the ~~chamber~~ compartment underneath the plate a small flame centered on the axis.

2. (canceled)

3. (currently amended) The burner assembly defined in claim [[2]] 1 wherein the [[disk]] plate outer diameter is greater than an inner diameter of the ring.

4. (original) The burner assembly defined in claim 1 wherein the plate is spaced above the ring.

5. (original) The burner assembly defined in claim 4 wherein the plate has at least three downwardly projecting and angularly spaced feet by which it stands on the ring.

6. (original) The burner assembly defined in claim 5 wherein the ring has a generally frustoconical upper surface centered on the axis and sloping downward toward the axis and the feet have lower surfaces of complementary shape that sit flatly on the surface.

7. (original) The burner assembly defined in claim 1 wherein the plate has an upper surface that slopes downward away from the axis and that has an outer edge.

8. (original) The burner assembly defined in claim 7 wherein the ring has a generally frustoconical upper surface that slopes downward outward away from the axis and having inner and outer peripheries, the outer edge of the plate upper surface being radially outward of the ring upper-surface inner periphery, whereby drips from the plate run to the edge, fall therefrom onto the ring upper surface, and run radially outward thereon.

9. (original) The burner assembly defined in claim 1, further comprising

a support for holding a cooking vessel spaced axially slightly above the plate.

10. (original) The burner assembly defined in claim 9 wherein the support is glass.

11. (original) The burner assembly defined in claim 9 wherein the support is formed with vertically throughgoing holes.

12. (original) The burner assembly defined in claim 1 wherein the plate has a generally planar upper surface designed to directly contact and support a cooking vessel.

13. (new) A burner assembly comprising:

a ring generally centered on an upright axis and defining a large annular array of holes;

means for supplying a gas/air mixture to the ring to project jets of the mixture from the holes, whereby, when ignited, the jets form a large annular flame centered on the axis;

a small burner in the ring generally centered on the axis and formed with a small annular array of generally radially outwardly open holes;

means for supplying a gas/air mixture to the small burner to form underneath the plate a small annular flame centered on the axis; and

a generally circular horizontal plate supported above the ring and above the small burner and generally centered on the axis, the plate having an outer diameter substantially greater than an outer diameter of the small burner and substantially smaller than an outer diameter of the ring, whereby the plate shields a cooking vessel above the burner from direct contact with the small flame but not from direct contact with the large flame.